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The Right Hon:ble the COMMONS of *England* Aſſembled in PARLIAMENT,

The humble Petition of the auntient Hackney-Coachmen *of* LONDON *and* WESMINSTER.

SHEWETH:

That whereas many inconveniencies have lately ariſen by the increaſe of *Hackney-Coaches*, kept and uſed within the aforeſaid Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, which ſaid increaſe and the inconveniencies thereby happening, have been occaſioned partly by the number of *Coaches* which have been kept by ſome wealthy *Coachmen*, of which ſome have kept 12. ſome 10. *Hackney-Coaches*, and ſome 30. *Coach Horſes* a piece, and chiefely by Tradeſmen; as *Inne-keepers*, *Coach-Makers*, and *Carre-men*, and other Perſons who have not been brought up in the Calling of *Coachmen*, yet for profit and Lucre have kept ſeverall *Hackney-Coaches*, and imployed Boyes and unexperienced Perſons to ply and drive the ſame: Whereof the Number imployed hath been above 1000. at one and ſame time.

AND whereas the King's Majeſty upon Complaint made of the ſaid inconveniencies, hath been pleaſed by his Proclamation to reſtraine your Petitioners from plying abroad in the ſtreets unto their reſpective Stables, whereby the ſaid *Inne-Keepers* and others (who have not been brought up in the Calling, yet keeping *Coaches* in the midſt and chiefe Innes of the City of *London*) are only imployed, and your Petitioners who are many of them very indigent, and have great Families and many Children, and have been alwayes brought up in the Calling (having their Stables in the remoteſt part of the City for avoiding of Annoyance) have no imployment, to the Ruine of themſelves, their Families and Children, who muſt fall upon the Charge and Charity of their reſpective Pariſhes, having no other Calling whereby to live; And likewiſe to the inconveniencies of all people, who can have no *Coaches* ready for Uſe upon the greateſt Occaſions and Neceſſities.

And foraſmuch as the ſaid Inconveniencies may be better prevented, by reſtraining the number of *Hackney-Coaches* to about 400. And by incorporating a certaine number of the chiefe and moſt experienced *Coachmen*, who have no other Calling, with power to make By Lawes and Rules directing the Uſage of the ſaid 400. *Coaches*, and for Regulating the Abuſes committed by *Hackney-Coaches*, in manner as by a Bill prepared for that purpoſe, and hereunto annexed is ſet forth.

May it therefore pleaſe your Honours to take the Premiſes, and the matters in the ſaid Bill contained to your Grave and ſerious Conſiderations, that the ſame may be Enacted or ſome other meanes may be found out for the reliefe of your Petitioners and the Publique good.

And your Petitioners ſhall pray, &c.

21 Decemb. 1687